

A ROMAN MYSTERY.

BY PROSPER MERIMEE.

I was 24 years of age when I started for Rome. My father gave me a dozen letters of recommendation, only one of which was sealed; this one could not have been less than four pages in length, and was addressed: "To the Marquis Aldobrandi."

"You must write to me," said my father, "if the Marquis is not beautiful."

Now, from my childhood, I had seen hanging over the fireplace of my father's study a miniature of a very handsome woman, with her hair powdered, and crowned with ivy, and a tiger's skin thrown over her shoulder. On the portrait were the words, "Roma, 18--." The costume struck me as very singular; I had often asked who the lady was. The answer had always been: "It is a picture of a bacchante." But this reply did not satisfy me; I suspected that there was a secret connected with the matter, for when this simple question was put, my mother appeared to bite her lips, and my father instantly became serious.

When my father gave me this sealed letter he cast a stealthy glance at the miniature. I involuntarily did the same, and the thought struck me that the bacchante might be the Marquis Aldobrandi. As I was just beginning to understand the ways of the world, I drew all sorts of conclusions from my mother's demeanor and my father's change of countenance.

When I arrived in Rome, the first letter I presented was that intended for the Marquis. She dwelt in a handsome palace near the Piazza San Marco.

I handed my letter and card to a servant in yellow livery, who ushered me into a large parlour which was dark, gloomy, and indifferently furnished. But there are pictures by the masters in all the palaces of Rome, and there was quite a number in this one, and some very fine.

The first one I remarked was a portrait of a woman, which I took for a Leonardo da Vinci. By the richness of the frame, and the rosewood easel on which it was placed, it could not be doubted that it was the gem of the collection.

As the Marquis did not give me time to examine it, I even carried it to his bed-chamber to scrutinize it in a more favorable light. It was evidently a portrait, and not a fancy picture, for such conundrums are not invented.

It was with a certain apprehension that I looked at her, with rather thick lips; the eyebrows almost met, and the expression was haughty, and withdrawn. On the background was a blazon, surmounted by a ducal crown. But what struck me most was this: that the coat-of-arms on the exterior of the powder, was that of my father's bacchante.

I had the portrait still in hand when the Marquis appeared.

"Like your father!" she exclaimed, as she advanced toward me. "Ah! Frenchman! Frenchman! he so soon arrives than he takes possession of Madame Lucrezia."

I hastened to apologize for my indiscretion, and dressed in extravagant terms the master-piece of Leonardo, which I had the boldness to displace.

"It is, in truth, a Leonardo," said the Marquis, "and that portrait of the too famous artist, Leonardo, of our picture gallery, is the one your father most admired. But, good Heaven! what a resemblance! I can imagine he holds you in his arms."

She received me, however, most affectionately. In a few words she offered me her house, her purse, and her friends, among whom she cited the name of Mademoiselle Lorraine.

"Consider me as yours," said she, "as your mother."

She modestly cast down her eyes.

"Your father asks me to watch over you, and counsel you."

"I am to prove to me that her charge was no sinecure; I immediately began to caution me against the dangers to which Rome menaced a young man of my age, and advised me to avoid them. I was to shun bad company, and especially that class of women who would designate me to her."

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WASHINGTON.

Democratic Virtue Worn on the Sleeve.

For Garfield, Not Dawes, to Peck At

Is the Department of Justice "Honeycombed with Fraud"?

That Is One of the Great Questions of the Day in Congress.

Enlivening Pursuits of the Pacific Mail Lobby.

Only Object Was to Collect "Statistics" from the Treasury.

Irwin Is Taken Again with "Violent Pains in the Head."

The Agony Comes On When He Is Asked to Tell the Truth.

The General Appropriation Bill Passed in the House.

Schurz and the Russian Mission--John B. Rice--Kalakaua.

OLD SCORES.

DEMOCRATS MAKE AN EFFORT TO PAY UP SOME OF THEM.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 18.—The House, after a great deal of general discussion attending the presentation of the King of the Sandwich Islands was ended, immediately resumed the reconsideration of the Legislative Appropriation Bill.

THE MILAGE OF QUESTION.

The debate arose upon the amendment proposed to restore milage in lieu of the present system of taxation, which was especially held with regard to the Department of Justice, and characterized it as a vampire, which is sucking the life of the nation.

THE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE.

The sub-committee of the Committee on Ways and Means, in its report, said:

Mr. Knobell, the Attorney General, was shown to have cooperated with the Committee in endeavoring to discover, prevent, and punish them.

Mr. Beck made a speech upon the subject of that bill.

He also doubtless informed the Committee that he had not been able to get the bill introduced.

Mr. Knobell, the Attorney General, denied that he had not been able to get the bill introduced.

Mr. Beck, however, said that he had introduced the bill.

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TERMS OF THE TRIBUNE.

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DAYS OF SUBSCRIPTION (PAYABLE IN ADVANCE).
Postage Prepaid at this Office.
Daily, by mail.....\$12.00 Sunday.....\$3.00
75¢ Extra postage for each additional day.
Postage at a year at the same rate.

To prevent delay and mistake, be sure and give Post-Office address, and State where you live. Remittances may be made either by draft, express, Post-Office order, or in registered letters, at our risk.

TERMS TO CITY SUBSCRIBERS.

Daily, delivered, Sunday and Saturday included, \$20 can per week.

Address—THE TRIBUNE COMPANY,

Courtesy Madison and Dearborn-sta., Chicago, Ill.

TO DAY'S AMUSEMENTS.

CHICAGO MUSEUM—Moor street, between Dearborn and State. Afternoon: "Romance and Reality," Evening: "Pep o' Day."

WICKETT'S THEATRE—Madison street, between Dearborn and State. Engagement of Edwin Booth, Afternoon: "Othello"; Evening: "Markheim."

GRAND OPERA-HOUSE—Clark street, opposite Stevens House, Kelly & Leon's Minstrels. "The Black Station." Afternoon and evening.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC—Michigan street, between Madison and Clark. "The Story of Tom Thumb's Pantomime-Troupe," "Jack and the Beanstalk." Afternoon and evening.

HOOKEY'S THEATRE—Randolph street, between Clark and LaSalle. "Clouds." Afternoon and evening.

SOCIETY MEETINGS.

WM. B. WARREN LODGE, No. 628, A. F. & A. M. Western Commandery Knights of Pythias, will hold their work on the F. C. Degree, Visitors welcome, J. R. DUNLOP, Secy.

BUSINESS NOTICES.

NEW YEAR'S CALLING-CARDS. THE FIRST AND LAST EDITIONS, elegant and unique designs, CUSHING, THOMAS & CO., 150 and 152 Clark-st.

ASTHMA.—IT IS USELESS TO DESCRIBE THE AGONIES OF ASTHMA. It is useless to tell how it suffered from its distressing paroxysms know full well what a doctor can do for it. Dr. H. C. BROWN, of Boston, has never failed to afford immediate relief, even in the most severe cases, and frequently it has been instantaneous.

For all Dr. Brown.

INDEX TO ADVERTISEMENTS.

SEVENTH PAGE—Citr, Suburban, and Country Rail-roads. Wants, To Rent, Lost and Found, Business Cards.

TENTH PAGE—Ocean Steamships, Railroad Time-tables.

ELEVENTH PAGE—Announcements, New Publications, Periodicals, etc.

The Chicago Tribune.

Saturday Morning, December 19, 1874.

WITH SUPPLEMENT.

It will be in order for some of the funny newspaper men to pun on the name of Stockwell, ex-President of the Pacific Mail Company, who is said to have disposed of \$750,000 in stock-operations on Wall street.

Now everybody will be wanting to rush up into Wisconsin, and dig for gold, although the testimony to the discovery of genuine ore in that State is of the flimsiest possible description. Probably most of the "gold-lau" in Wisconsin can be bought for \$10 an acre, and carl-terms.

A long and graphic "special dispatch," purporting to be from Carson, Nev., was published in an afternoon paper yesterday. It gave a detailed report of the hanging of John MURPHY. Unhappily, MURPHY was not hanged. He was reprieved late in the day. Now, where did that "special dispatch" come from?

The officers of the Pacific Mail Company assert, with grand self-possession, that they authorized the expenditure of only \$7,000 in Washington, and that they understood that amount was to be used in collecting "statistics" from the Treasury Department. It is remarkable that, while they only started out to collect "statistics," they came very near collecting half a million in money, annually, from the Treasury Department.

There seems to be some foundation for the report that President GRANT is considering the propriety of nominating Senator CARL SCHNUZ to the Russian Mission. Mr. SCHNUZ has no affinity for the Democratic party, and now that the issue is a plain one between Bourgeois and Republicanism, he is found, where he belongs, in the Republican ranks. The appointment would probably be acceptable to Republicans in the West.

The Good Samaritans have ceased to be merely ridiculous, and become public nuisances. They ought to be abated just like so many disagreeable smells. We cannot conceive that the ladies who engaged in the disgraceful affairs chronicled in our local columns this morning imagined that they were serving the cause of God or man, or doing anything but gratify their own evil and ugly passions. Hereafter it will be disreputable to be known as a Good Samaritan.

King KALAKAU was "received" yesterday, in genuine American style, by both Houses of Congress and by the President. As is usual on such occasions, everybody was delighted and entertained, excepting the beneficiary. His discomforts were aggravated by a cold in the head, and by the awe in which he stood of the august people to whom he was introduced. Whether the awe or the cold troubled him most, had not, at last account, been definitely ascertained.

We shall have the pleasure of receiving in Chicago to-day Mr. MORRISON, the grain-dealer of Kentland, Ind., who is charged with attempting "the bribery of one of Inspector HARPER's clerks. The offense for which MORRISON is to be tried is, it appears, a misde- meanor, and the extreme gravity for it is a fine of \$4,000. Throughout the various and tedious litigation which MORRISON's friends sustained in order to prevent his surrender to the Illinois officers, Gov. HENDRICKS has shown praiseworthy regard for the laws, doing his duty whole at the expense of some popularity in Indiana.

Iron-manufacturers in Eastern Pennsylvania complain of those in the western part of the State. Nature has done something for the Western people by giving them cheap coal, and they have the additional advantage of cheap labor. Here is a state of affairs indeed which no tariff laws can remedy. The only thing for the Eastern men to do is to secede from the Union, and build up manufacturing industries for themselves. When they talked so loudly about "developing the resources of the country," they were thinking only of developing those resources which they controlled. Their invention has returned to them.

The Chicago produce markets were rather slow yesterday, except in pork and wheat. Pork was moderately active, and 10c per lb. lower, closing at \$18.80 cash, and \$19.25 seller February. Lard was less active, and 7.12c@10c per lb. lower, closing at \$13.90 cash, and \$13.30 seller February. Meats were quiet and firm, at 1.2c@2c for shoulders, 9.12c for short ribs, and 9.4c for short loins.

Highbrowns were quiet and steady, at 97c per gallon. Flour was in better demand. Wheat was less active and 1c higher, closing at \$8.3c@4c cash, and \$9.1c for January. Corn was dull and 3.4c@4c lower, closing at 73 cts per bushel, 65.1c for new, 71.1c for seller May. Oats were dull and 1.2c lower, closing at 52.5c@5c cash, and \$2.12c for January. Barley was quiet and steady, at 95c. Barley was quiet and firm, closing at \$1.21 1c cash, and \$1.22 for January. Hogs were quiet and closed easy; sales chiefly at \$6.75@7c. Cattle were in fair demand and ruled firm. Sheep were dull and easy.

NEW YORK HOTEL EXORTIONS.

The New Yorkers for some time past have been indulging in lamentations over the dull times. Business is slack. Entertainments don't pay. Few strangers are arriving in the city. Those who do come get away as soon as they can. Country merchants give the city a wide berth. Even the opera has already lost \$30,000 or \$40,000. Workmen are striking. Rogues are increasing. So runs the dismal song which the New York papers are singing in different keys. It is a little remarkable that, in the search for the causes of this lamentable condition of things, the papers and the people of that city have not hit upon one of the most radical, namely, the extortions of the New York hotelkeepers.

The Occidental & Oriental Steamship line, which has been called into existence by the Pacific Railroad Companies, will soon have a tangible existence. The new Company has agreed with the railroads to begin an immediate service, and has leased for its purposes three of the magnificent White Star steamers. The persons interested in this new venture may possibly be the movers of the Pacific Mail investigation, which is being held in Washington. We can understand that the Occidental & Oriental Company would like to have the Pacific Mail Company brought into discredit with the people. However, in this case, the end justifies the means.

Prince BISMARCK seems determined not to keep the good will of the people very long at a time. No sooner had he been thoroughly vindicated in the Von ARNIM case than he chose to take fanciful umbrage at the resolution of the Reichstag concerning the arrest of Deputies during the session, interpreting the vote as showing a want of confidence. Then he offered to resign, and the Emperor wouldn't have him, and he reconsidered his purpose, and the Reichstag was made to declare that it meant no offense. BISMARCK is always resigning. He is the great resigner, just as HORATIO SEYMOUR is the great daminer. He has cried wolf so many times that everybody laughs now when he raises the familiar echo.

The intelligence that Commander WILLIAM B. CUSHING, of the United States Navy, is dead, will be received with profound sorrow, not only by those whose hearts were with the Government during the War of the Rebellion, but by all who appreciate heroism. He was one of the grandest characters developed by the War. His memory is worthy to be embalmed in verse and handed down as a precious legacy to succeeding generations of Americans. The lesson of how to fight for one's country is not frequently so taught as it was by Commander CUSHING; and we cannot pass without improving the opportunity to enforce this teaching by illustration, comment, and approval. We therefore reproduce elsewhere in this morning's issue the best parts of an article which lately appeared in *Harper's Magazine*, telling the story of the hero's life. It will be found to be, we believe, not only a brief history of a brave man, but also a thrilling recital of some remarkable incidents in the late War.

THE TEA AND COFFEE TAX.
Mr. DAWES, of Massachusetts, deserves credit for his courage and his statesmanship in proposing to restore the duties on tea and coffee,—duty of 12 cents per pound on tea and 3 cents per pound on coffee. This tax ought never to have been repealed. That repeal was a fraud upon the country, and intended to swindle the people. During the fiscal year 1872, the revenue from tea and coffee was \$12,350,000. The repeal of the tax was a loss of that much revenue annually, without the slightest relief to the people who consumed the articles. The moment the tax was removed in this country it was added to their price by an export tax in China, Cuba, and Brazil. It was a clear case of the Philadelphia, and Boston charges high prices because New York no longer has an absolute necessity, makes his stay as brief as possible, makes no arrangement for social pleasures, usually arrives in the morning, finishes up his business as quickly as possible, gets away at night. If he does not, then his personal expenses make a very serious hole in his margin of profits. If the merchant wants to take his wife to New York, it will probably cost him \$100 or \$125 per week for his hotel board alone, not to mention other necessary expenses. Under such circumstances, how can New Yorkers expect any other than a dull condition of things? Do they imagine that people can stand this hotel-swindling week after week and month after month? Do they fancy that business men will not protest against it, and at last go elsewhere, where they can board more cheaply and escape from this constant extortion? What is true of New York is equally true of Philadelphia, and Boston charges high prices because New York does not.

In Chicago, on the contrary, there is no such whine over dull times as constantly emanates from New York. The city is full of country traders. Our merchants are doing a big holiday business. The hotels are well filled, not only with transient people, but with families who have broken up housekeeping and gone to the hotels to board. The result is, that people are living cheaply and the hotels are making money, and merchants from all over the West are pouring into the city and making their purchases here. Why? Because they can get board at \$3 to \$3.50 at our first-class hotels, and our first-class hotels are larger, handsomer, more elegant, better furnished, and better kept than the New York hotels. There are not four hotels in New York, or any other city, which can compare in these respects with the Palmer, Grand Pacific, Tremont, and Sherman Houses for instance. They have no complaints to make, nor in fact have any of the hotels, large or small, in this city. If New York wants to prosper and invite trade, her hotel-keepers must reduce their prices. If the hotel-owners are charging enormous rents, then they must reduce them. One thing is certain, the travel bureau is determined to submit to their extortions no longer.

This tax on tea and coffee comes nearer to a purely revenue tax than any other; that is to say, every dollar of it, less the cost of collection, is received by the Treasury. It is a tax solely for the support of the Government. The Treasury does not share it with any person or corporation. A family purchasing 100 pounds of tea at 23 cents per pound will expend \$23, of which \$3 is tax, all of which goes into the Treasury.

The same family expending for cotton to make sheets, pillow-cases, shirts and other underclothing, \$70, will pay \$50 for the cotton and \$20 for the tea, of which the Treasury will receive about \$5, and the other \$15 will be paid to the protected "partners" which Congress has authorized to share the tax.

A family spending during the year \$200 for indispensable clothing and household goods will thus approximately divide that sum between the actual value of the goods and the tax thereon:

Value of	Tax.
Cotton goods.....	\$ 3
Woolen goods.....	125
Woolen goods.....	29
Glasses.....	40
Crockeryware.....	35
Linens.....	100
Muslin goods.....	90
Spool cotton.....	10
Fine and needles.....	3
Total.....	\$63
	\$307

Here, then, out of a total expenditure of \$920, in the article we have named, the family pays \$307 tax and \$613 for the goods, and of this tax not more than \$40 to \$50 is received by the United States, the rest falling to the share of the protected "partners" who are pensioned from this tax upon the whole people. Taxes levied on the principle of paying \$1 to the Government and dividing four other dollars among special interests must necessarily be very high in order to raise enough revenue for the Government. To raise \$12,000,000 for the Government under that mode of taxation requires a total of fifty or sixty millions of dollars; while a tax on tea and coffee, there being no partners to share it, is all revenue.

To repeat the tax on cottons, woolens, etc., would repeat from \$4 to \$5 tax for each dollar of revenue lost; while to repeat the tax on tea and coffee is a total loss of revenue. If the tax on tea and coffee, producing twelve millions of dollars revenue, be repeated, it will require an increase of taxes on the consumers of cottons, woolens,

leather, iron, etc., to the extent of fifty millions to make good the loss of the tea and coffee tax. For this reason, the men interested in the railroad, bounfied and the partnership system of taxation, acting on the ignorance of those who did not understand the question, obtained the repeal of the tea and coffee tax in order to make the other taxes essential to the revenues of the Government.

committee to investigate this Central Pacific Railroad business. That Committee will be Democratic, and during the intervening summer there will be a general gathering and coloring of facts. If the investigation shall disclose, as the probabilities are that it will, that OAKES AMES' Credit Mobilier was a small affair compared with the Credit Mobilier of the Pacific end of the road, then the North violated the Constitution in forcing the Southern States to remain in the Union; and every act of the National Government from the beginning to the end of the War was therefore unconstitutional and void.

If there is anything corrupt in the past history of the Central Pacific Railway Company why should it not be made public? Suppose the investigation will disclose that a large number of the Senators and Representatives in Congress, both Republicans and Democrats, had been bribed by money, stock, and other pecuniary profits by this great corporation, why should not the fact be made public, that the country be informed, as it was in 1872, of the hypocrites and dishonest men who were using both political parties for their personal advantage? If there be nothing in this charge of corruption, what is easy to make that fact known, and put the slander at rest? Why enter a mere denial, when the truth or falsity of the charge can be ascertained. If this refusal to investigate be founded on the fear that some Republicans may be involved, the refusal is more unjustifiable and impolitic. If there be men in the Republican organization who are honored and respected as leaders, and who are in fact corruptors,—who have taken official bribes,—is it not better that these men be exposed and discarded by a Republican Congress than to have it done by the other party? The present House cannot suppress this investigation. It must come, sooner or later; and, should it be found that there was official corruption, the crime cannot fail to be aggravated by the attempt of the Republican House to suppress the evidence.

IT IS THE BEST WAY TO ESTIMATE THE ENORMITY OF THIS SUBSIDY BUSINESS.

When the subsidy-practice is regarded in the light of these figures, we think that all sections and all interests will agree that they can better afford, severally, to sacrifice their own projects than to shoulder the burden of all the subsidies proposed. As far as the West is concerned, we can better rely upon the economical management of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad for the present, and the improvement of the Canadian canals in the near future without cost to this country, than to assume our share of gigantic subsidy-system of hundreds of millions in order to get some doubtful aid for ourselves.

THE BOSS CASE.

The details of the abduction of CHARLES ROSS, and of the subsequent discovery of his kidnappers, excite in romantic interest any story of crime yet conceived by romance or playright. The disappearance of the child, the alternations of hope and despair in the hearts of the afflicted parents, as news came from time to time that their boy had been discovered, the various threads of rumor which the officers unraveled only to find that they led to nothing, the pursuit of the real kidnappers for months by the detectives acting under the orders of Inspector WALLING, of New York, and the manner in which they avoided the school-boy riot, did not cease their high-toned efforts until they provoked a general riot, in which parents and children panted and knocked out teeth with a dexterity which only long practice could give. This development of the public-school system is not one which can be admitted. It is indeed, however, a touching bit of chivalry. "No firing took place," we are told, "probably because they were afraid of killing the children." It is creditable, indeed, that the White League refrained from indulging in a battle of piccaninnies. One or two volunteers into that army of little black fellows would have seriously diminished the negro population in 1872. The vote of 1870 will, however, be less by at least one out of the school-boy riot. One adult negro was discovered. Telegrams from Republican sources say he was murdered. The Democratic claim that he fell dead of "heat disease." It is odd—the way in which a small lad, shot into a heart, will produce disease of the organ. About fifty Vicksburg negroes died of the same sickness the other day. It is very prevalent wherever the Democratic "White League" exists.

When children deliberately engage in riots that lead to murder, the responsibility for the crime rests on the parents whose lawlessness finds an echo in that of their sons. Crime holds high carnival in New Orleans. The White League, armed and drilled, confronts the State Government. The twenty-two companies of United States troops in the city prevent open insurrection, but can do nothing more.

The street and school outrages of the last few days are like the tiny figures on *Vivarium*, through which the tourist catches a glimpse of the raging fire upon them.

And so through a column of the sort of statement. Now, the fact is

that TARBINE has not said a word for or against liquor.

The Tribune, however, is not satisfied with the sale of liquor.

The Tribune complains of taxes, and would like to see them quadrupled. The Tribune is not satisfied with the prevalence of poverty and squalor, and would like to see them reduced.

The Tribune sources claim that the negroes who make them such.

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The Tribune sources claim that the negroes who make them such.

And so through a

the two soundest temperance practices of the Van Buren party back the little fellow, and all has been vacant so long in our home.

NOT IN NEW ORLEANS.

A high-toned, whole-souled city to "our best society" in

where the rising generation credit its fathers based their lives upon—"damn the niggers!"

and fathers and sons have both learned lessons of the War.

These bring us of square shoulders and immediately after away from colored boys in embryo evidently prouder to be got with practice than can triumphantly capture our colored girl, while a few looks pass at the suddenly discover how great a secret is when a few colored men. The vigilance committee, who visited the girls, did not cease their high-handed practices until they provoked a general parents and children punched out teeth with a dexterously practiced blow.

The public school system is

seen admiring. It invaded,

each bit of chivalry. "No

"we are told, "probably be afraid of killing the child creditable, indeed, that the refrained from indulging in a

animosity. One or two valiant army of little black have seriously diminished the

vote of 1876 will

by at least one, for this

One adult negro was disengaged from Republican

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rat fell dead of "heart

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deliberately engage in riots, the responsibility for the parents whose lawlessness that of their sons. Crime

in New Orleans. The

armed and drilled, confronts

the twenty-two

United States troops in the city

correction, but can do nothing and school outrages of the like the tiny fissures on Ven-

which the tourist catches

the raged fire under the

which he walks. Any hour may

occur.

that the School Board of

about to establish a separate

colored pupils. This may

do. It is not advisable

co-education of the races

of a majority of the tax-

attempt of a mob to break

the children of colored citi-

the schools entirely is

one. The old argument

siders that the negro

too ignorant even to be a

they plead this excuse for

care to justify it by making

it and as ignorant as penal

them anything could

the slaveholders are trying

over again. They proclaim

is unfit to associate with

is ignorant, and then they

the schools in which

to remove his ignorance.

Government is unable

outrages it must be rei-

it is recognized as the legal

Meanwhile, Congress

soon, as possible, upon the

quality. Delay in this de-

been a Pandora's box of

the place he has usurped

is the rightful Governor,

by bayonets if need be,

obs that New Orleans chiv-

MURDER BY LAW.

state of Iowa abolished

in deference to a masculine

mentality. The Tribune pre-

that two results would

be seen—an increase in

attempt to cure the evil by

double prediction has come

of the law was almost

by an outbreak of murder

in the last few months,

three brutal murders in the

Moines alone. At least two

accompanied by other horrible

disputes from Iowa

fearful increase of murder

the abolition of capital

Legislature." In fact, this

committed of late in Iowa

with such cunning, de-

of plan that De Quincey's

as a Fine Art" needs to be

an appendix of facts from

of course, smaller crimi-

shed side by side with big

within which Old Profess-

a daily train-robbing

northward from Missouri

Hawkeye farmer needs to

with a hawk-eye and a lynx-

he did need to do so

the trees of his State

of horse-thieves, and

certain grim humor that

not abolished capital

the Legislature had. His

remained worked so well

now been applied to

Howard, a wretch guilty of

among which were four

has been dragged out of

at Des Moines. Others

ended with a like fate. Vig-

have been formed in a num-

is state of things will, it is

ext Legislature to restore

murder. It is to be hoped

one. When a man slaug-

she will not pay him 25

abandon a preventive that

encouragement.

It destroys popular re-

ctory and the law. It is

for private malice, and

to a needless and utterly

use. Thus, on the same

was hung, a vigilante

the increase of drunken-

ness was

commited in another Iowa town came very

near hanging a man who was suspected—and

only suspected—of firing a barn.

The strongest passion of hu-

manity. The punishment which takes away

the strongest possible de-

pendent to crime. Imprisonment for life is a

peculiar, the occasional corruption or

simony of juries, and the abuses of the

judges power, have shortened the average

term of the man who is sentenced to life-long

detention to less than ten years! It is rare,

too, that any such sentence is passed. A

State which hangs does not hold

men cheap. It puts a proper

penalty upon the man who robs another of

his wealth, and coloring-matter.

The smaller amount of pure wine imported

is added to the price of the house, \$2,300,000

During 1873-4 they added \$1,430,000, and the

remainder this year. These extraordinary

results are accomplished by cash. As may

well be imagined, and the enormous in-

crease tells its own story of the wealth and

popularity of the great West.

The Pittsburg Commercial of the 16th inst.

contains a story of the arrest in that city of one

CHARLES DIXELL, upon the charge of larceny.

He left home (Philadelphia) for the West some

time ago to better his fortunes, but, as the se-

quel shows, met with disappointment. The Com-

mercial says:

Upon leaving his home for the West, he walked all

the way to this city. He had no means and begged

the charity of the saloons and cigar-shops in this

city, not being able to obtain employment at any

place on his arrival, and finding it extremely difficult to

get work, he resorted to thieving.

In this city he was unable to procure work, and two or three weeks ago, being almost in a

starvation condition, he noticed a window pane and crackers in the window. He reached his hand in to get some of the crackers, when he was arrested by a policeman and committed to jail for trial on a charge of larceny.

In the Commercial of the same date we find

the following paragraph:

Upon leaving his home for the West, he walked all

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MONEY AND COMMERCE.

FINANCIAL.

FRIDAY EVENING, Dec. 18.
The orders for currency today were not heavy. The condition of the market precludes any heavy shipments of hogs to this point, holders being weak. The effect is seen in the continued suspension of the movement of currency to the interior.

The flow of currency to the city is small. Some slight loans have been made in the last two or three days to New York, but the tide, in or out, is decidedly weak.

New York exchange was inactive at 60¢75c premium between banks for \$1,000. Little currency has yet been sent to New York.

The clearings were \$4,000,000.

The demand for loans is light. Grain and pork men have no use for borrowed funds at the present rates of grain and provisions; the mercantile community get nearly all from collections that they need in addition to the amounts borrowed in November. Outside borrowers are rare in these non-speculative days. Rates of discount remain 10 per cent to regular customers; independent occasional borrows can obtain concessions, according to time and security.

Interest on 90-day certificates; real estate loans 6 to 10 per cent.

The case of the American National Life and Trust Company, of New Haven, under investigation as to its insolvency, as has been explained in this column, has been postponed by the Connecticut State Court till the January term.

The Nevada bullion last year, says the *Alta California*, was \$31,650,620; in the first six months of the present year, \$16,073,488, and the last half of the year, \$16,073,488, so that the net total for 1875, under existing conditions, the bullion production of Nevada cannot be estimated at \$40,000,000, while California will turn out its usual quantity, \$20,000,000. There is then before us a period of positive certainty of an amount of 60 per cent of capital and losses of funds beyond that of any precedent in this or any other country.

The Central Railroad of New Jersey has deposited a considerable dividend of 2½ per cent, payable Jan. 25.

A meeting of bondholders of the City of Memphis was held in New York day before yesterday. In the absence of the city treasurer, the Mayor, in the name of the city, voted to pay \$3,800—the part due interest (to January 1, 1875), \$471,600—making \$4,371,165, from which was to be deducted \$220,000 on account of the sale of city stock, leaving \$4,151,165.

The following instruments were filed for record at the office of W. D. Kort and Co., 88 East Washington street, to Dec. 19, at 4 p. m., to consider whether a new law for the protection of landlords cannot be framed, and presented at the next meeting of our Legislature for consideration and passage, the present law being no protection to landlords.

The following instruments were filed for record at the office of W. D. Kort and Co., 88 East Washington street, to Dec. 19, at 4 p. m., to consider whether a new law for the protection of landlords cannot be framed, and presented at the next meeting of our Legislature for consideration and passage, the present law being no protection to landlords.

REAL ESTATE.

PROTECTION FOR LANDLORDS.

A meeting of bondholders in real estate pending will be held at the office of W. D. Kort and Co., 88 East Washington street, to Dec. 19, at 4 p. m., to consider whether a new law for the protection of landlords cannot be framed, and presented at the next meeting of our Legislature for consideration and passage, the present law being no protection to landlords.

The *Journal of Commerce* gives the following for the foreign imports at New York for the month of November:

1874. **1873.** **1874.** **1873.**

Domestic raw materials, \$2,200,000; total, \$19,100,000.

Foreign free goods, 180,202 lbs., 1,261,264 lbs.; doable, 982,321 lbs., 1,071,867 lbs.; Specie and bullion, 4,383,903 lbs., 4,445,842 lbs.

Total exports, \$28,489,169; do, 1,041,724; \$24,436,255.

Domestic raw materials, \$2,635,216; 38,495,892 lbs., 19,988,338 lbs.

MORE ABOUT COTTONS.

To the *Editor of the Chicago Tribune*:

Sir: There are two or three questions I would like to have you answer for the consideration of the Committee having the revision of the rules of the Board of Trade in charge, concerning cotton or any other article.

First, do you think it is reasonable to assume that there is a due and natural limit to the amount of cotton? It would have prevented any great inflation of cotton prices, and would have saved the country from a financial crisis.

The second question is, that as the cotton price has been raised, should it not have been increased by the people in the 6 per cent bonds.

This is a legal argument for all debts, public and private, except duties on imports and interest on the public debt, and is exchangeable for United States' 6 per cent bonds, redeemable at the pleasure of the holder, and is exchangeable for United States' 6 per cent bonds, redeemable at the pleasure of the holder.

The third question is, that there was a kind of redemption clause in the "Coupon," and assigned a due and natural limit to the amount of currency.

It would have prevented any great inflation of cotton prices, and would have saved the country from a financial crisis.

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THE CITY.

COUNTY ASYLUM.

The Joint Committee from the Board of County Commissioners were again in session yesterday afternoon in the committee-rooms at the County Building.

Commissioner Clough occupied the chair, with Commissioners Holden, Guenther, Hering, Longenecker, McCaffrey, Schmidt, and Burdick, present.

The Committee will not resume the salary question before Tuesday.

The main business before them yesterday was considering contracts and bids for finishing the improvement of the County Asylum.

Commissioner Holden moved that all bids made to complete the improvement at the Insane Asylum be rejected, and he offered that motion for the reason that he believed they could finish the masonry themselves and save an expenditure of over \$10,000 to the county.

This fight was able to give on the authority of Mr. Eggen.

Commissioner McCaffrey offered an amendment, which was that Mr. Eggen give them an estimate of what the work would cost by day work, and saving the money would make up the improvement by day work instead of by contract.

Commissioner Hering thought \$35,000 would complete the work.

Commissioner Guenther thought that all that was necessary was to know the number of brick, and the number of barrels of lime, with the cost per 1,000 of laying the brick, so he gave them \$20,000 per acre for sand hills to extend these parks; when he sees this, and beholds the immense outlay in ornamentation, which in no way adds to the usefulness of the institution, he and his colleagues are forced to think otherwise than that a people having so much life to squander upon the mere pleasures of life, would not stop at any outlay which is a positive necessity to the comfort of the inmates.

After a few pleasantries? The General, in a quixotic way, is rending the veil of fustian which has long hung over this "wind" city.

Wind has caused us a great deal of trouble; and not the worst has been the "southwest wind."

ISAAC GANNETT.
Chicago, Dec. 18, 1874.

KANSAS RELIEF.

To the Editor of The Chicago Tribune:

I am the only authorized agent in the City of Chicago to gather contributions of clothing, provisions, and money, for the sufferers in Kansas.

With their money? Money may be sent direct to the Rev. James N. Green, Chairman of the Relief Committee, Parkerville, Morris County, Kan., or, more convenient, may be left with Assistant Postmaster C. S. Squires or myself.

Deacon Clegg, Mrs. E. and Capt. Dixie are of the Captains. Dixie and Buckley are talked of as the Deputy Superintendent, and Sergeant.

It was learned from an authentic source, last evening, that Superintendent of Police Rehm was going to resign, and vacate his office Jan. 1, 1875, in accordance with his desire, expressed at the time he took the position he now occupies.

It is said that Deputy-Superintendent Hickey will succeed him, and in fact, it is ascertained in police and political circles, it is also understood that the Police Commissioners are in favor of Hickey's appointment, and will urge it to the General Assembly.

Captain Ellis and Buckley are talked of as the Captaincy made vacant in case either of those officers is appointed.

John Linn, who was arrested Thursday, with the intention of the chance of larceny, is the adopted son, and not the actual son, as stated in yesterday's notice of the arrest, of Mr. Edward A. Linn, of No. 629 North Clark street.

Mr. Linn displayed a strong affection for his adopted son, and was succeeded in his efforts.

But had conducted the youth into vicious practices, and Mr. Linn was obliged to disown him over a year ago.

The only privilege young Linn enjoyed at the hands of his adopted father was that of occupying the basement of a sleeping apartment.

The discovery of a quantity of stolen goods there, as well as the boy's arrest, was a surprise to Mr. Linn, who cannot be said to be responsible for the conduct of his wayward boy, whom he seems to bring up respectively.

THE GRAND JURY AND THE CITY-HALL.

At the opening of the present term of the Criminal Court, Judge Tree recommended the Grand Jury to investigate the conduct of the police department at City-Hall.

The Grand Jury, however, condemned the building as a public nuisance, and as being dangerous to life, was very strong, and created a profound impression, inasmuch as it was the first time that the grand jury had ever been convened in the court-room.

Dr. Miller was examined at some length, and it was decided to have a personal inspection of the courtroom by Judges Gary, Booth, and Cooley.

On Saturday morning, Dr. C. M. Hillard, Commissioner of Health, and Dr. W. H. Smith, Commissioner of Police, presented the report of the inspection.

Commissioner McCaffrey thought the whole matter had better stand over.

Commissioner Holden thus withdrew his motion.

The matter was laid over till some future meeting, and the Committees adjourned.

INDOMITABLE CITIZEN.

CHICAGO, Dec. 18, 1874.

DUTY OF FIREMEN.

To the Editor of The Chicago Tribune:

Sir: Will you allow me to inquire through the columns of your paper, what is the duty of our Fire Department; it is to watch, citizens' property and extinguish fires, or is it to attend "balls"?

This was the case on the morning of the 11th inst., when \$40,000 worth of property went to ashes, while a number of fires, together with a number of balls, were attended.

Commissioner McCaffrey—The building will cost about \$60,000, which will save about \$4,000.

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INDOMITABLE CITIZEN.

CHICAGO, Dec. 18, 1874.

THE CONVENTION.

To the Editor of The Chicago Tribune:

Sir: The person writing the article in The Tribune of the 16th in regard to turning the Exposition Building into a skating rink for the winter is perfectly sound on that idea. Urge the thing to be done in all means; it will in no wise injure the building, but, on the contrary, will be a great pecuniary gain to the stockholders. It is a number of years since we have had any facilities for skating, and should it be revived, it will be a great boon to the city.

Commissioner McCaffrey—The building will be \$10,000 per annum.

Commissioner Burdick estimated that the work could be done for \$32,500.

Mr. Eggen—I think the building will cost the city about \$40,000, which will save about \$4,000.

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INDOMITABLE CITIZEN.

CHICAGO, Dec. 18, 1874.

CRIMINAL.

To the Editor of The Chicago Tribune:

A. J. Reynolds proposes to give a concert for the benefit of the grasshopper sufferers. The programme will be announced to-morrow.

Prof. Swing's lecture in the Reunion Presbyterian Church, postponed from Tuesday, Dec. 15, will be given Thursday evening, Dec. 24.

The Athenaeum class in light gymnastics for ladies and children will meet at 2:30 p. m. to-day in the rooms of the Athenaeum, No. 114 Madison street.

Little Devine was taken in custody last evening on complaint of Henry Brunt, who alleged that he robbed him of \$15 at No. 124 Pacific avenue. He was incarcerated in the Armory.

Charles Lampert keeps a saloon at No. 87 South Halsted street, kept by Mary Stewart, at No. 14 South Union street, was pulled by Capt. Ellis' order last night, and four inmates captured.

Officer O'Connor of the Madison-Street Station, arrested Edward Wilson yesterday, on the charge of arson in stealing a black velvet coat. He was locked up.

Christian Cutler was arrested yesterday on complaint of William Rhinehart, who alleged that he stole a blanket from him. He was locked up in the Madison-Street Station.

Kittie Devine was taken in custody last evening on complaint of Henry Brunt, who alleged that he robbed him of \$15 at No. 124 Pacific avenue. He was incarcerated in the Armory.

Charles Lampert keeps a saloon at No. 87 South Halsted street, kept by Mary Stewart, at No. 14 South Union street, was pulled by Capt. Ellis' order last night, and four inmates captured.

There will be a meeting this evening in Washington Hall, at 7 o'clock, of the Temperance Reform Club, at which will be a detail of the names unknown, but to be pointed out, on the charge of riot. Officer Gleason was left in charge of the premises. In the absence of Mrs. Walpert, accompanied by Dr. Rod, he was taken to the office of the Home, corner of Hammont and Menomonee streets, and asked Mrs. Wheeler to surrender. She followed his advice.

UPON REACHING THE HOME,

which was about noon, she sought an interview with Mrs. Wheeler, which was refused.

The inmates of the Home, to the number of about thirty, were found locked in the room of Mrs. Wheeler, and under her orders and control.

At 12 o'clock, Mrs. Walpert was admitted, and allowed to speak to the inmates.

She explained that Mr. Rod's connection with the Home had been discontinued; that he had agreed to let him go to the Home, corner of Hammont and Menomonee streets, and asked Mrs. Wheeler to surrender. She followed his advice.

THE OTHER SIDE.

of the situation, Mrs. Walpert repeated to them the statement she had before made to the reporter.

She said he had been discharged by Mrs. Walpert some days ago, but she refused to go; that since Mrs. Walpert had had anything to do with the Home, the inmates had nothing to do with her.

She further stated that she had been dismissed; that she had nothing to do with the Home.

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